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REMARKSI. Introduction

In response to the Office Action dated May 22, 2006, which was made final, claims 19 and 29-37 have been canceled, and claims 14, 15, 20, 21, 22 and 24 have been amended. Claims 14-18 and 20-28 remain in the application. Entry of the amendments, and allowance of the application, as amended, is requested.

II. Non-Art Objection

In section (2) of the Office Action, claims 15, 19, 20 and 22 were objected to due to because of the use of "said wafer" rather than "said metal wafer."

Applicants' attorney has amended claims 15 and 22, and canceled claim 19, to overcome this objection. However, Applicants' attorney traverses the rejection of claim 20, since there is no "said wafer" in claim 20.

III. Prior Art Rejections

In sections (3)-(5) of the Office Action, claims 14-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,847,454 (Shaw) in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,923,716 (Brown) and U.S. Patent No. 6,902,656 (Ouellet). In section (6) of the Office Action, claims 27-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shaw, Brown and Ouellet as applied to claim 14, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,780,672 (Steele).

However, in section (7) of the Office Action, claims 19-26 were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants' attorney acknowledges the indication of allowable claims, and has amended claim 14 to include claim 19, thereby rendering claim 14 allowable. Further, claims 15-18 and 20-28 are submitted to be allowable in the same manner, because they are dependent on independent claim 14 and thus contain all the limitations of the independent claim. In addition, dependent claims 15-18 and 20-28 recite additional novel elements not shown by the references.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is now in good order for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner believe minor matters still remain that can be resolved in a telephone interview, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' undersigned attorney.

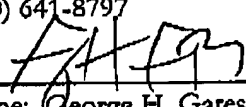
Respectfully submitted,

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